

Mr. President, the Congressional budget office has determined that my amendment would not add to the cost of this bill. I don't believe it will be a burden to owners either. It simply provides warning to tenants, warning that I believe out of simple dignity they should be provided, and gives local and state governments the tools they need to preserve the housing—after buying out the owner at a fair price—in the affordable housing pool.

Mr. President, other speakers have talked about the crisis in affordable housing. We are at a point in our history where we are simultaneously experiencing some of the most tremendous economic growth while enduring an all time high of renters with worst case housing needs—5.3 million people across the country. My amendment is a small change, but if it is a change which provides low income tenants with increased security and allows for ample warning so that housing can be preserved then, I believe it will have a big impact.

Mr. BOND. I ask unanimous consent that it be designated as a Bond and Mikulski amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

The amendment (No. 3209) was agreed to en bloc.

Mr. BOND. I move to reconsider the vote.

Ms. MIKULSKI. I move to lay it on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. BOND. Again, my sincere thanks particularly to my colleague from Maryland for her fine staff. My thanks to our staff for staying with us. I think we have set a record for debate, for expeditious handling of VA/HUD bill. We are grateful, No. 1, to the leadership, Senator DASCHLE and Senator LOTT, for giving us such a propitious time to expedite the consideration of this measure.

Let me extend my special thanks to the occupant of the Chair and all of the floor personnel, including the pages, of the Senate for staying with us to quarter to 12, and perhaps a little later. We appreciate your willingness. This has helped us move forward.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, as we close the debate on the fiscal year 1999 VA/HUD bill, I thank Chairman BOND, first, for all the courtesies that he has extended both to myself and to my staff during the entire year that we have considered this legislation—many hearings, many discussions, many issues that we ironed out so we could come to the floor with the bill that really met compelling human need and investment in the future.

And at the same time, avoid a lot of the wrangling that sometimes can surround appropriations bills. I also think he handled the bill tonight with great deftness. We want to thank him. I want to thank his staff, Carolyn Apostolou

and Jon Kamarck for the outstanding job they did. Of course, I could not stand here and be able to articulate the position of both my party and my own beliefs without my very able staff. I thank Andy Givens, David Bowers and Bertha Lopez, who were with me throughout the entire year as we moved this bill.

So I look forward to voting for the bill tomorrow and in conference. And really, for all of the pages who have worked so late, they should know that this bill has really helped. We have housing for the poor and have saved the environment, invested in the future. I could go on, but I am going to now yield the floor.

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the votes ordered with respect to the amendments offered to the VA-HUD appropriations bill occur in the order they were offered, beginning at 9 a.m. tomorrow morning as under the previous order. I further ask that no second-degree amendments be in order to the amendments.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BOND. For the information of all Senators, the voting schedule for Friday morning is as follows:

The Wellstone amendment regarding veterans compensation. I understand that the chairman of the budget committee will raise a point of order with respect to this amendment so the vote will be on a motion to waive the budget act with respect to the Wellstone amendment.

Following the Wellstone vote the Senate will vote on or in relation to the Murkowski amendment regarding Alaska veterans, followed by a vote on or in relation to the Nickles FHA amendment, followed by a vote on or in relation to the Burns amendment regarding NASA indemnification, followed by a vote on or in relation to the Sessions amendment regarding NASA funding.

It is hoped that following the preceding amendment votes the Senate will immediately move to final passage of the VA-HUD Appropriations Bill.

#### UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes all action on S. 2168, that it not be engrossed and be held at the desk. I further ask that when the House of Representatives companion measure is received in the Senate, the Senate immediately proceed its consideration; that all after the enacting clause of the House bill be stricken and the text of S. 2168, as passed, be inserted in lieu thereof; that the House bill, as amended, be read for a third time and passed; that the Senate insist on its amendment, request a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and the Chair be authorized to appoint the following conferees on the part of the Senate: Senators BOND, BURNS, STEVENS, SHELBY, CAMPBELL, CRAIG, MIKULSKI,

LEAHY, LAUTENBERG, HARKIN, and BYRD; and that the foregoing occur without any intervening action or debate.

I further ask unanimous consent that upon passage by the Senate of the House companion measure, as amended, the passage of S. 2168 be vitiated and the bill be indefinitely postponed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for the transaction of routine morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### REMARKS OF THE HONORABLE HOWARD H. BAKER, JR.—LEADER'S LECTURE SERIES

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, this was old home week in the Senate. Former Senator Howard Baker of Tennessee, who served almost two decades in this body, returned to give us a piece of his mind—in the best sense of the phrase.

To be precise, he delivered, in the august Old Senate Chamber, the second presentation in our Leader's Lecture Series. The first address earlier this year, by former Senator Mike Mansfield, was both moving and memorable. Senator Baker's remarks were no less so.

He entitled his remarks "On Herding Cats," a reference to the nature of the work of a Senator Majority Leader—or, for that matter, a Minority Leader. Suffice it to say that, as the current holder of the leadership office which Senator Baker gave up when he left the Senate, I fully understand what he means.

To advance the public's understanding of the Senate, and to further appreciation of its unique traditions and procedures, I ask unanimous consent that the text of Senator Baker's Lecture be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the remarks were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

REMARKS OF THE HONORABLE HOWARD H. BAKER, JR., LEADER'S LECTURE SERIES, JULY 14, 1998

#### ON HERDING CATS

I first walked into the gallery of the United States Senate nearly sixty years ago. My great-aunt Mattie Keene was secretary to Senator K.D. McKeller of Tennessee, and I came here to visit her in July 1939 as a 13-year-old-boy, and she procured gallery passes for the House and the Senate.

The Senate had only the most primitive air conditioning in those days. It was principally cooled by a system of louvers and vents and sky lights that dated from 1859, when the Senate vacated this chamber and moved down the hall to its present home.

The system did not work very well against Washington's summertime plague of heat and humidity, and as a consequence, Congress was not a year-round institution in those days.